

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 6, 8 - 10, and 13 - 16 (canceled)

7. (currently amended) ~~A truss for reinforcing a pole, the truss~~ combination comprising:
a utility pole having a generally vertical longitudinal axis; and
a truss attached to the utility pole for reinforcing the utility pole, wherein the truss
comprises:
 an elongated body having a pair of opposite ends connected by a pair of
 longitudinal edges, wherein the longitudinal edges extend substantially parallel to the
 longitudinal axis of the utility pole;
 the body having an open cross-sectional configuration characterized by a pair of
 side flanges each extending from a respective one of the longitudinal edges in a direction
 diverging from the other side flange, and an intermediate section connecting the pair of
 side flanges, wherein the intermediate section of the cross-sectional configuration includes:
 a pair of bridge portions associated one with each of the pair of side
 flanges, each bridge portion extending in a direction forming an obtuse angle with
 the direction of the associated flange; and
 a pair of apex portions associated one with each of the pair of bridge
 portions, each apex portion extending in a direction forming an obtuse angle with
 the direction of the associated bridge portion, wherein the pair of apex portions
 converge toward one another and fastener holes are provided through each of the
 pair of apex portions.

11. (currently amended) A ~~truss for reinforcing a pole, the truss combination~~ comprising:
a utility pole having a generally vertical longitudinal axis; and
a truss attached to the utility pole for reinforcing the utility pole, wherein the truss
comprises:

an elongated body having a pair of opposite ends connected by a pair of longitudinal edges, wherein the longitudinal edges extend substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the utility pole;

the body having an open cross-sectional configuration characterized by:

a pair of straight apex portions forming an excluded angle A1 with one another;

a pair of straight bridge portions each forming a first included angle A3 with an associated one of the pair of apex portions;

a pair of straight side flanges each forming a second included angle A2 with an associated one of the pair of bridge portions;

wherein the angles A1, A2, and A3 are chosen to satisfy the following relationship:

$$180-A2 - A3 + \frac{1}{2}*A1 >0$$

in which angles A1, A2, and A3 are expressed in degrees, and wherein the excluded angle A1, the first included angle A3, and the second included angle A2 are equal to one another.

12. (original) The truss according to claim 11, wherein the excluded angle A1, the first included angle A3, and the second included angle A2 are all equal to 100°.